

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
20 November 2003 (20.11.2003)

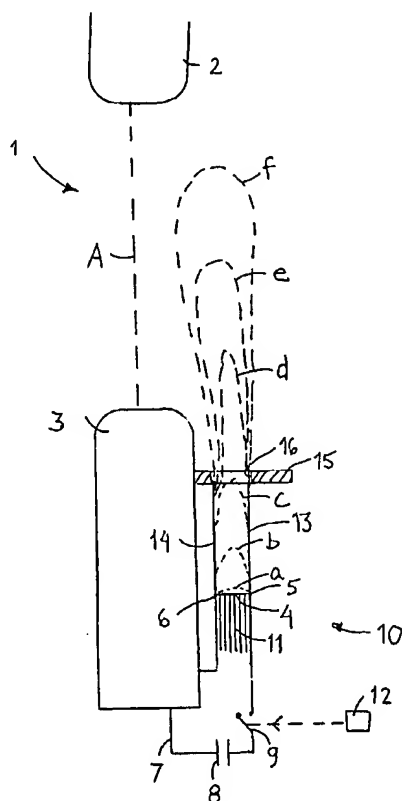
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/096502 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H01T 2/02** S-72222 Västerås (SE). JOHANSSON, Jan [SE/SE]; Klangberget, S-732 91 Arboga (SE). PAULSSON, Lars [SE/SE]; Mölleröd, S-280 22 Vittsjö (SE).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/SE03/00739
- (22) International Filing Date: 8 May 2003 (08.05.2003) (74) Agent: ABB GROUP SERVICES CENTER AB; Legal & Compliance/ Intellectual Property, Forskargränd 8, S-721 78 Västerås (SE).
- (25) Filing Language: Swedish
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 0201424-9 13 May 2002 (13.05.2002) SE
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- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT (utility model), AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ (utility model), CZ, DE (utility model), DE, DK (utility model), DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE (utility model), EE, ES, FI (utility model), FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK (utility model), SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR TRIGGERING A SPARK GAP



(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to a device for quick closing of an electric high-voltage circuit. The device comprises a spark gap (1), provided with a first (2) and a second (3) main electrode, and a triggering device (10). The triggering device comprises an auxiliary spark gap (4) provided with a first (5) and a second (6) auxiliary electrode and is adapted, where necessary, to generate an arc (a) in the auxiliary spark gap (4) to ignite an arc (A) in the main spark gap (1). According to the invention, each auxiliary electrode (5, 6) is provided with a guide rail (13, 14) designed such that the arc, via the guide rails and while being influenced by the generated magnetic field, moves into the main spark gap (1). The length of the guide rails is larger than the width of the auxiliary spark gap (4). The auxiliary electrodes (5, 6) are arranged such that they are protected from the effect of plasma formed in the main spark gap. The spark gaps are enclosed in a hermetic enclosure. The invention also relates to a method and a use.

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